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the pockets of the public, without doing any thing for it, adding, that he was certain, lord Castlereagh did not differ from him upon the subject of that sinecure." In conclusion, the Hon. gentleman said, that he thought it his duty minutely to state these facts, because the public were interested in them, and because it was right to make known the tricks and juggles to which these men resorted, who would sacrifice kindred, friendship and candour, to serve their own ends.

A gentleman, whose name we could not learn, proposed the appointment of a committee of twenty members to watch over the rights of the city of London, and to devise the means of guarding against their violation.

But upon Mr. Waithman recommending the propriety of further deliberating about such a measure before it was put to the vote, the honourable gentleman was induced to wave his proposition.

The several resolutions were then put and carried unanimously.

*At a meeting of the general committee of the Catholics of Ireland, held at the committee room, No. 4, Crow-street, on the 31st Jan. 1810.*

SIR THOMAS ESMONDE, BART. IN THE CHAIR,

Resolved, That, solemnly protesting against the unrelenting system of intolerance which the Catholics of Ireland appear to be doomed in this enlightened age to endure, we are yet stedfastly determined to persevere in claiming our emancipation.

And by our constancy in this just pursuit, and by availing ourselves of all warrantable means for this purpose, to prove ourselves worthy of those equal rights and liberties which we demand, and can never consent to forego.

Resolved, That, not dismayed by past disappointments, or deterred by existing difficulties, we shall take every occasion to utter our complaints, to solicit ample discussion, and to render our degraded and oppressed condition universally known—relying, that the unerring influence of justice and sound reason (to which we appeal) must speedily subdue those blind and fatal prejudices which obstruct the freedom and happiness of Ireland.

Resolved, That it is the indispensable duty of this committee to have their petition to parliament presented to both houses, so that the entire merits of our cause may be fairly and amply discussed.

Resolved, That the Earl of Fingall be requested forthwith to cause our petitions to both houses of parliament to be so proceeded upon as to ensure that inquiry and discussion which the honour and interest of the Catholic body imperiously require.

THOMAS ESMONDE, CHAIRMAN.

*James Nangle, esq. in the chair.*

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be given to Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart. for his dignified and proper conduct in the chair.

EDWARD HAY, SEC.

## PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

### BRITISH.

*For the information of our readers we select from the Statesman, London Newspaper, the following article. The subject appears to have obtained but little attention in this country, although so clearly affecting a traffic which is so well known on the Change of Belfast.*

#### BUYING OF BANK NOTES

The apprehension of Mr. De Yonge seems to have failed of producing the desired effect, for Bank Notes, in spite of every effort, continue to be bought at a reduced price. As the actual prosecu-

tion of Mr. De Yonge for the offence of buying Bank of England Notes, has by many been doubted, we have made some inquiry into the affair, and find that a bill of indictment has been found, on which Mr. De Yonge will be tried at the next Sessions. For the information of our Readers we present them with a copy of the first, and abstracts of the four last counts, of this curious document, in which it is averred, that the Notes of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, called Bank Notes, are of the

value specified on the face of them—and that a Spanish dollar is of the value of five shillings, although intrinsically it is worth no such sum, high as is the present price of the precious metals.

The circumstance of Mr. De Yonge's apprehension are not a little curious. The second witness, J. Call, accompanied by the third, knocked at the door of Mr. De Yonge, who is by birth a Dutchman. Call addressing him fluently in his own language, stated, that he could not speak English, but the person who accompanied him could. Mr. De Yonge, however, replying in the same language, the assistance of an interpreter became unnecessary. Call, then represented himself to have Bank Notes which he wished to exchange for guineas, as he was going to Holland.—After some negotiation an exchange was effected, and Mr. Call and his friend left the house, to which, however, in less than two minutes they returned, accompanied by the other three witnesses mentioned in the indictment, who had been waiting in a coach for the result of the *trap*. One of the three, a Mr. Powell, was a gentleman from the Mint, and the other two Officers. To the great astonishment of Mr. De Yonge, his Dutch friend, Mr. Call, who could speak only Dutch, demanded in good English of Mr. De Yonge the Bank Notes and dollar which he had exchanged for guineas. Those, which Mr. De Yonge produced, they immediately seized, together with Mr. De Yonge himself, who was taken before the Lord Mayor, and subsequently liberated on finding bail.

These are briefly, as we have been informed (and we doubt not correctly) the facts. The value of Bank Notes and stamped Dollars, it remains for a British Jury to ascertain. In the mean time, Mr. De Yonge, who is very far from being in affluent circumstances, has lost his Bank Notes, and, with them, the means of defending himself in such a manner as so very important a case requires. The number of attempts made by the traps on persons suspected of buying Bank Notes, has been very considerable; but, until Mr. De Yonge was caught, they were unsuccessful, and in some instances unfortunate, receiving, instead of guineas, a sound cudgelling.

The Statute on which Mr. De Yonge is indicted, it will be seen, is not stated in the indictment.

It is greatly to be hoped, that this unfortunate victim will not be suffered to want the means of defending himself against the powerful prosecutors with whom

he has to contend, on a question of such public importance. The manner of seducing Mr. De Yonge to the commission of the act, is precisely in unison with that conscientious principle which urged a certain Society to employ agents to purchase meat of butchers on the morning of the Sabbath Day, for the express purpose of fining them for the commission of that offence.

LONDON, } The Jurors for our Lord the  
to wit. } King, upon their oath, present that James de Yonge, late of London, labourer, being an evil-disposed person, and not regarding the laws and statutes of this realm, nor fearing the pains and penalties therein contained, on the 26th day of December, in the 50th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George III. &c. with force and arms, at the parish of St. Botolph, Aldgate, in the ward of Portsoken, in London, aforesaid, unlawfully did exchange certain coined gold of this realm, that is to say, fifty pieces of gold coin of this realm, called guineas, of the value of 52l. 10s. with one Jefnatus Call, receiving of and from the said J. Call, then and there to wit, on the same day and year aforesaid, at the parish and ward aforesaid, in London, aforesaid, more in value, benefit, profit and advantage, for the said coined Gold so exchanged, that is to say, for the said 50 pieces of Gold Coin of this Realm, called Guineas, than the same are declared by a certain Proclamation of his late Majesty King George the First, given at his Court at St. James's, the 22d of November, 1717, in the 4th year of his reign, to be current for within this his Majesty's realm, and others his dominions, that is to say, two Promissory Notes of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, called Bank Notes, for the payment of the sum of 10l. each, and of the value of 10l. each; two other Promissory Notes of the said Governor and Company, called Bank Notes for the payment of the sum of 5l. each, and of the value of 5l. each; seven other promissory notes of the said Governor and Company, called Bank Notes, for the payment of the sum of 2l. each, and of the value of 2l. each; and twelve other promissory Notes, of the said Governor and Company, called Bank Notes, for the payment of the sum of 1l. each, and of the value of 1l. each; and one piece of silver coin called a Dollar, of the value of Five Shillings, in contempt of our said Lord the King, and his laws, to the evil example of all other persons in the like case offending, against the form of the Statute in that case made and provided;

and against the peace of our said Lord the King, his crown, and dignity.

2d Count—That he received such Notes in exchange, being 3l. 15s. more in value, benefit, profit, and advantage, for the said coined Gold, &c. than the same is declared by the aforesaid Proclamation to be current for.

3d Count—That he did exchange 50 pieces of coined gold money of this realm, called guineas, of the value of 21 shillings each, and together of the value of 52l. 10s. receiving more in value, benefit, profit, and advantage, than the said coined gold money is declared by the said Proclamation to be current for, &c. that is to say, &c. (The Bank Notes and Dollar before mentioned.)

4th Count—That he did exchange with the said J. Call, 50 guineas, being current for no more than 21 shillings each, receiving from him one shilling and sixpence more in value, benefit, profit, and advantage, for each and every of the said guineas, than they are declared by the said Proclamation to be worth, that is to say, (the Bank Notes and Dollar before-mentioned.)

5th Count.—That he unlawfully did exchange with the said J. Call, 50 pieces of coined Gold Money, of the value of 52l. 10s. receiving from him 3l. 15s. more in value, benefit, profit and advantage, for the said pieces of Gold, than the same are declared to be current for by the said Proclamation.

Witnesses,

CALEB EDWARD POWELL,

JEFFREYUS CALL,

JOHN BUSH,

ROBERT BROWN,

DANIEL BEN. LEADBETTER.

#### ELOPEMENT.

An elopement has taken place which will make a very considerable noise. The elegant Miss Elwes, daughter of George Elwes, esq. eloped with a young clergyman of Oxford, of the name of Duffield, who was assisted in the plot by two other gentlemen of the cloth on Wednesday 7th February. Mr. Elwes is perhaps, the richest ready-moneyed commoner in England. He is heir to the peculiar virtues of his economical father, and is estimated to be worth near a million of floating disposable cash, and she is his only child. She is under age, but was not made a Ward of Chancery. The plan devised by the three clerical gentlemen, was well concerted.

One of them under pretence of paying his addresses to a lady on a visit to Mrs. Elwes, contrived to be received into the family in the character of her lover, where he was treated with the utmost respect; and this gave him opportunities of arranging the matter for his friend Mr. Duffield. On Wednesday morning he prevailed on Mrs. Elwes to accompany his own intended wife a shopping; and in their absence, he handed with the utmost openness, Miss Elwes to the door, near which a chaise and four was drawn up. He met Mr. Elwes in the hall, who asked them where they were going; she was without a hat or bonnet, and said she was only going to her mamma, who was waiting for her. The reverend gentleman proceeded with her, placed her in the chaise by the side of her gallant, and returned to the house with the utmost unconcern. Mr. Elwes had inquired in the mean time, how long Mrs. Elwes had been out, and seeing her conductor return, inquired where his daughter was. The clergymen with perfect sang froid, told him he had delivered her to the man destined to make her happy; and that she was off to Gretna Green, where he advised him to follow, and assist in the ceremony. The distress of Mr. Elwes, and still more of Mrs. Elwes, on her return may be conceived. They both set off in a post chaise and four, on the north road; but we believe they proceeded no farther than St. Alban's where not having heard the least account of their route, they resolved to return; and yesterday no tidings had been received of the happy pair.

*Morning Chronicle*....We are requested to state, that Mr. Duffield, who has eloped with Miss Elwes, is a Layman, and that none of the parties concerned were clergymen. We understand that Mr. D's addresses had been permitted two years ago, but some change in the opinions of the governing part of the family had arisen, and other suitors were strongly recommended to the young lady. She, however, continued constant to her first attachment. The gentleman who handed Miss E. to the door, was a real suitor to the lady visiting in the house, and their union is expected shortly to take place. Mr. D. arrived safe at Gretna Green, on Thursday night, and was immediately married to his fair and lovely companion.

#### CORONER'S INQUEST.

At 2 o'clock on Saturday February 3d, an inquest was held before An-

thony Gell, esq. coroner for Westminster, on the body of a young man, name unknown, then lying dead at the house of J. Norris, the Northumberland Arms, Great Russell-street, Covent-garden.

From the testimony of Mr. Thomas Harris, master of the Garrick Head tavern, in Bow-street, it appeared that the deceased had come to his house on Tuesday morning last, in company with another person, who appeared to the witness to be a stranger to the deceased, and whom the witness supposed to be a Jew. They had coffee and toast for breakfast, ate uncommonly hearty, and had a decanter of Madeira on their breakfast table, which they completely emptied, and the deceased payed for the whole. He continued at the Garrick's Head the greater part of Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, only going out at intervals to see the town, as he said, and also to go to the oratorio and the play. The Jew was not above twice or three times in his company; the deceased was alone the greater part of the time, still, however continuing to live in the most extravagant style, eating uncommonly hearty, and drinking very freely at all hours of the day, of the most costly wines, but constantly paying for every thing as he had it. Though he had very much the demeanour of a gentleman, yet still there was something in his dress, which induced the landlord to think that he moved in some of the inferior walks of life; his coat was a coarse brown frock, like that generally worn by stablemen. He at one time however, spoke about his having respectable connections in the country, but at another time denied his having a friend in the world. Upon the whole, there was a good deal of inconsistency in his conduct, and contradiction in his discourse, which occasioned the landlord to suspect he laboured under a derangement of intellect. On Thursday about four in the afternoon, he was very importunate in his solicitations to a waiter and a boy who attended him, to procure him a large sharp knife, to shave the leaves of a book, which

he said he had just bought near the Garrick's Head. Upon inquiry however, it was found that no person of his description had bought any book that day in the neighbourhood. The knife was peremptorily refused to be given him, and he quitted the house, observing that the people seemed to be extremely suspicious of him, but that he would go and buy himself a knife. The landlord thought of giving him in charge to a police officer, but whilst one of his servants went in quest of Donaldson, the constable, the deceased disappeared, and the witness heard no more about him until nine o'clock at night, when a watchman told him of the melancholy event which had taken place.

By subsequent evidence, it appeared that the deceased went to a cutler's shop in Russell-court, where he bought a knife for the avowed purpose of sticking a pig with it;—he had it well sharpened, as he said he had a very large pig to kill with it. He then paid a shilling for it, and upon getting it into his possession, told the woman of the house that he intended to cut his own throat with it. She then said, "I hope you won't let the devil get such hold of you as that;" but he answered, "Its no matter; things have gone too far."—After a vain endeavour to coax him to let her have the knife again, she assured him that she would not for all the money in England have sold him the knife, if she had known the use he was going to make of it.—He said that was of no consequence, for if she had not sold it, another would. He looked wild, cut some capers in the shop, and darted off. He then went to the Northumberland Arms, where he said he had just come out of Lincolnshire, and had not slept a wink for two nights, and required a bed directly. He was furnished with a bed in the two pair of stairs front room, and in a few minutes after the servant had left him, the people of the house were alarmed with his moans. Upon going into the room, he was seen lying on the bed with his throat desperately cut, the bed and floor being almost covered with blood. Mr. John

Cole, a surgeon in Russell-street, was brought in, but the wind pipe was entirely severed, and all signs of life were gone. The deceased appears to be about 26 or 27 years of age; five feet ten or eleven inches high; he had 10s. 6d. in his pocket, and there was also found in one of his pockets about two yards of rope, about the size of bed cord.

Verdict deranged in his mind, and in that state cut his throat with a butcher's knife, value 1s.

#### SHOCKING ACCIDENT.

An extract of a letter from Liverpool, dated Sunday, February 11, says—"I am sorry to have to communicate to you a dreadful accident, which happened here this morning. The spire of St. Nicholas, commonly called the Old Church, fell in, about ten minutes before the time of service, extending from the tower up to the communion table, all which was desolated in an instant, and now presents a most awful spectacle. It is supposed that 30, chiefly old women and the children of a Sunday Charity School, have been killed, besides a number with fractured limbs, skulls, and otherwise dreadfully mutilated! They had been pinning the foundation at the north-west angle of the tower; and, it is feared, that this dreadful accident is to be attributed to neglect, or suffering the bells to be rung whilst the tower was in this obvious state of insecurity. The spire of George's church, in Liverpool, has lately been taken down, owing to the repeated and urgent representations of the neighbouring inhabitants, and though it was in a tottering state for a considerable time, the wishes of the people in the neighbourhood were utterly disregarded. We trust the Corporation of this town will see the necessity of consulting professional men upon the situation of buildings which are in a state of imminent peril.

On Friday evening February 9th at his house, in Ely Place, London, suddenly, aged 37, J. C. Saunders, esq. late demonstrator of anatomy, at St. Thomas's hospital, and surgeon to the London infirmary for curing diseases of the eye. In him the world has lost a man of science, and the poor a friend. He administered to the prevention and cure of blindness, with an humanity that must for ever make him live in the recollection of those who have been benefited by the application of his great talents. In the treatment of diseases of the eye, he was eminently successful; and his name will be remembered by posterity with admiration and gratitude, for

having ascertained the means of giving sight to children born blind with cataracts.

CALEB WHITEFOORD, Esq.—We are very sorry to inform the public, that this gentleman died on Sunday morning, at his house in Argyle-street. He was well known in the first polite and literary circles, and possessed great talents and information. He had a turn for wit and humour, and a store of anecdotes, which rendered his society very entertaining.—He was particularly successful in classical allusions, and was esteemed a very good scholar. He was honourable and liberal in all his dealings, and there was a firm sincerity in his manner upon all occasions, which strongly indicated a hatred of dissimulation and disguise. He was very active and zealous in his friendships, and in his endeavours to promote the success of dawning genius. His taste for the arts was a predominant feature in his character, and is manifest in a very large and valuable collection of pictures, which he has left to his family. There are, perhaps more portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds in this collection, than can be found in any other.

Mr. Whitefoord was the author of many works of approved merit, though he never put his name to any of his productions, which were chiefly confined to the journals of the day; and he was formerly very liberal in his literary contributions to the "Public Advertiser," of which he was then one of the proprietors.

Mr. Whitefoord struck out a new species of humour, which was known by the name of cross readings, and when he first communicated it to the public, he gave the apt signature of *papyrus cursor*. It is hardly necessary to observe, that the design of this whimsical scheme, was to read along the lines of the several columns of a newspaper into one another, instead of to the end of each, by which means many odd and diverting coincidences were often produced; but those struck out by his fancy, on proposing the scheme, were far superior, in point of wit and humour, to any thing that has since appeared of the same nature. Another very diverting essay on the "Errors of the Press," contributed to bring Mr. Whitefoord's name into notice, and many excellent effusions of political humour and satire he conveyed to the public under the title of "Ship News." Upon the whole, he was a man of distinguished talents, a zealous friend to his country, a loyal subject, and a very respectable member of society.—His friend Goldsmith winds up his character in Retaliation with the following appropriate lines;

Merry Whitefoord, farewell ! for thy sake I admit,  
That a Scot may have humour, I had almost said wit ;  
This debt to thy memory I cannot refuse,  
"Thou best natur'd man, with the worst humour'd muse."

With regard to his lighter productions ; his success encouraged a herd of imitators, until at length as is usual in the case of imitation, what was supported in him by original genius, fell into discredit by the failure of his imitators. Success gives ephemeral reputation, which lures the in-

judicious, till the public become disgusted with attempts at false wit, and such things sink into merited oblivion.— Even in the present case, Caleb Whitefoord, lived to see this specimen of wit justly fall into disrepute. A warning to wits, and still more to imitating wittlings, that though the coruscations of genius may give a temporary credit, yet utility and close research, can alone confer permanent reputation, and a lasting fame.— "I paint for eternity ;" was the language of a man, who sought for fame, not in doing trifles well, but in laborious well directed efforts.

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### DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

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#### IRISH,

##### DUBLIN COMMISSION INTELLIGENCE.

*Tuesday, February 20.*

##### CONSPIRACY.

Arthur Downes, Owen Reynolds, and H. O'Beirne stood indicted, for that they being ill-disposed persons, and intending the liege subjects of the king, by divers false pretences, to cheat of their monies, goods and chattles, on the 1st day of November last, did conspire to draw upon each other bills of exchange for large sums of money, and represent the parties to the said bills to be solvent ; and did open a shop for the pretended sale of woollen and linen drapery, at No. 190, Great Britain-street, and deceitfully deposited trusses of hay, resembling by their covering woollen and linen cloth, and in furtherance of the conspiracy did agree to purchase from Anthony Pusterla, a looking glass, value 10l. and tender in payment a bill, purporting to be drawn by Arthur Downes on Michael Reynolds, for 10l. and represented that the said persons were persons of property, and that the bill would be paid, by which deceit O'Beirne fully obtained a looking glass. There were other counts in the indictment, laying the conspiracy to cheat in various ways.

John Murphy examined by Mr. Torrens.—Lives in Britain-street, in the city of Dublin ; lived there in the month of September ; a person named Reynolds came to him in that month to

take a shop, parlour, and kitchen, and gave a memorandum in writing, that it was for the drapery business ; there was another person (one of the prisoners) O'Beirne—Witness set him the shop ; was to be paid forty pounds yearly ; the shop was taken possession of the same day ; cannot say it was Reynolds took possession ; but as soon as Michael Reynolds got possession, the door was fastened ; and in a fortnight after the name, A. Downes, was placed over the door ; witness had no dealings with Downes ; the kitchen was not taken possession of ; there was a communication from the parlour to the hall, which was never opened after they came, and no person could get to them but through the shop door ; the house was not used by them for any necessary purpose, either of water or candle-light ; the candles were lighted at Clarke's a public house ; they got punch from the house ready made ; they did not make use of the necessary belonging to the house ; never was in the shop but one night when they refused to shut it, and witness was obliged to sit up till half past one o'clock ; the prisoner Downes was the most constant there ; saw O'Beirne there frequently with a lady who he said was his wife ; never saw Owen Reynolds there ; Downes called himself Muldoon at the head office ; witness never knew his name before ; on the 9th of January had an opportunity of examining the